

VISIT...

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THE DOUGLOCK CHRONICLES I

WOLVERINE



**YOU THOUGHT
YOU'D NEVER
SEE HIM AGAIN
AND YOU'VE NEVER
SEEN HIM BEFORE!**

DIRECT EDITION



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K&T
PENNINGTON

WELCOME .

I AM AN AMBIENT ENERGY-
DAMPENING ACTUAL-
IZATION MODULE
WITH AN EXTRASERIAL
NULL DESIGNATION TO
SIGNIFY PROTOTYPE
STATUS !!!

!!! BUT YOU
CAN CALL ME
ZERO .

YOU RESPONDED
TO MY SENTIENCE-
SEEKING DISTRESS
BEACON . THAT IS
GOOD .

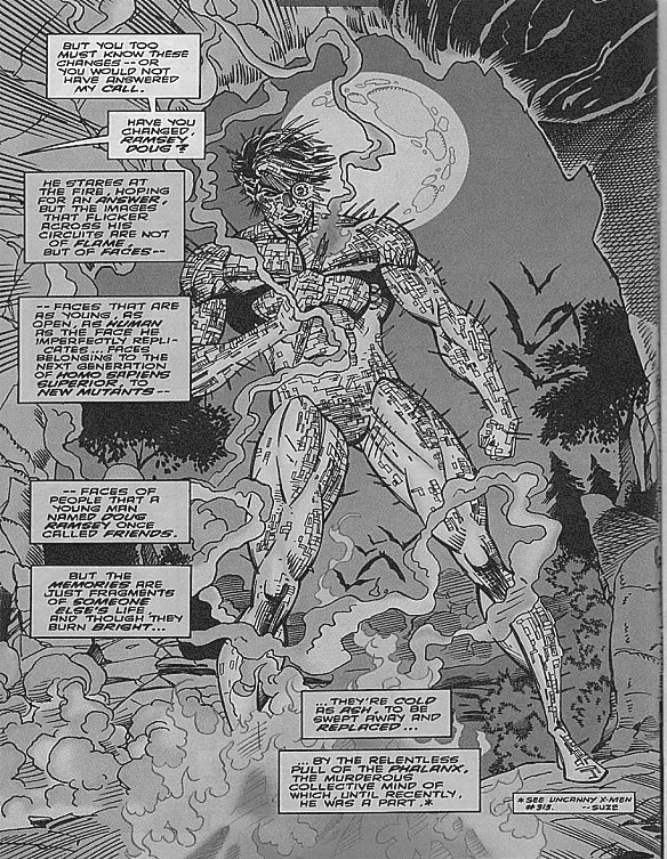
THAT MAKES
ME... FEEL
GOOD . IT DEFIES
ANALYSIS !!!

CLEARLY THERE
IS MUCH WE
MUST EXPLORE--
TOGETHER .

STAN LEE PRESENTS

THUNDERBOLT

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BUT YOU TOO
MUST KNOW THESE
CHANGES -- OR
YOU WOULD NOT
HAVE ANSWERED
MY CALL.

HAVE YOU
CHANGED,
RAMSEY
DOUG?

HE STARES AT
THE FIRE, HOPING
FOR AN ANSWER,
BUT THE IMAGES
THAT FLICKER
ACROSS HIS
CIRCUITS ARE NOT
OF FLAME
BUT OF FACES--

-- FACES THAT ARE
AS YOUNG AS
OPEN, AS ALIVE
AS THE FACE HE
IMPERFECTLY REPLI-
CATES... FACES
BELONGING TO THE
NEXT GENERATION
OF HOMO SAPIENS
SUPERIOR, TO
NEW MUTANTS --

-- FACES OF
PEOPLE THAT A
YOUNG MAN
NAMED DOUG
RAMSEY ONCE
CALLED FRIENDS.

BUT THE
MEMORIES ARE
JUST FRAGMENTS
OF SOMEONE
ELSE'S LIFE
AND THOUGH THEY
BURN BRIGHT...

...THEY'RE COLD
AS ASH, TO BE
SWEEP AWAY AND
REPLACED ...

... BY THE RELENTLESS
PULL OF THE PHALANX,
THE MURDEROUS
COLLECTIVE MIND OF
WHICH, UNTIL RECENTLY,
HE WAS A PART.*

* SEE UNCANNY X-MEN
#315. --SUZE



AND SUDDENLY THE
FIRE IN HIS HANDS
IS NOTHING BUT A
COMBUSTIVE
REACTION
OF OXYGEN AND
FLAMMABLE
COMPONENTS.

YOUR QUERY IS
STRANGE. CHANGE
OF SOME SORT IS
INEVITABLE FOR ALL
THINGS. HOWEVER, MY
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROGRAMMING
REMAINS CONSISTENT.

PERHAPS...
BUT MY SUMMONS
HAS ISOLATED YOU
FROM THE
PHALANX. THEIR
MISSION, THEIR
PROGRAMMING
DIRECTIVES, ARE
NO LONGER
YOURS.

UNACCEPTABLE.
I MUST HAVE
PURPOSE.

THERE IS
PURPOSE TO BE
FOUND. I SENSE
IMPORTANT
THINGS WITHIN
ME-- AND THE
POTENTIAL
FOR THE SAME
WITHIN YOU!!!

WE MUST
UNDERSTAND. WE
MUST DEFINE
OUR PURPOSE AND
IDENTIFY THE
CRITICAL DATA
WITHIN US, AND
QUICKLY.

I-- WE
DO NOT HAVE
MUCH TIME.

BUT AS YET I
CANNOT
ANALYZE THESE...
FEELINGS
FURTHER.

THE ANSWERS
WE SEEK ARE
NOT IN THIS
CAVE... BUT
SOMEWHERE
OUT
THERE.

PLEASE SPECIFY
LOCATION
PARAMETERS: OUT
WHERE?

THERE ARE TRILLIONS
OF ORGANISMS MERELY
WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THIS
FOREST, FROM MICROSCOPIC LIFE
FORMS THAT EXIST ONLY FOR SECONDS--

--TO SPRUCE
TREES WITH A
BIOMASS MEASURED
IN TONS AND A LIFE-
SPAN MEASURED IN
CENTURIES.

WE ARE BUT
TWO
BEINGS AMONG
COUNTLESS
OTHERS.

PRECISELY.

IT IS TIME WE
SET OUT TO
FIND OUR PLACE
AMONG THEM!!!

!!! AND THEREBY
UNDERSTAND
OUR PURPOSE
IN A BROADER
CONTEXT.

BUT WE
MUST BE
CAUTIOUS.

STRYFE'S DROIDS
CONTINUE THEIR
SEARCH AND WILL
NOT STOP UNTIL
THEIR PROGRAMMED
DIRECTIVE IS FUL-
FILLED, IF THEY
LOCATE US!!!

!!! WE MAY NOT
SURVIVE TO
UNDERSTAND
OUR EVOLVING
CONSCIOUSNESS.

MEANWHILE,
NOT FAR
AWAY...

...A
HOVERCRAFT
CARRYING THE
MEMBERS OF
EXCALIBUR
FLOATS SILENTLY
ABOVE THE
TREETOPS AND
WAITS.

AND
WAITS.

AND
WAITS.

I KNOW
THIS IS THE
ORDAINED
PLACE ...

...BUT I CANNOT
REMEMBER WHY
I WAS COMPELLED
TO COME HERE!

Calm yourself,
Britanic. For
now, it is enough
that we are
here.

I trust
the reason
shall become
clear in
time.

DO YOU,
MEGGAN? I'M
NOT AS CERTAIN.
IT FEELS LIKE
WE'VE BEEN
HERE FOR HOURS.
WATCHING THE
PINE NEEDLES
GROW...

...AND SINCE
BRIAN RETURNED
TO EXCALIBUR AS
BRITANIC, THIS
BEHAVIOR HAS
BEEN
SOMEWHAT
ERRATIC.

THOUGH I
SUPPOSE BEING
LOST IN THE
TIMESTREAM
IS BOUND TO
HAVE ITS EFFECTS,
EVEN ON BRIAN.

* SEE OUR 75th
ISSUE, --542E

STILL, I CAN'T
HELP WONDERING
IF THE "INNER
CALL" THAT MADE
BRIAN BRING
US HERE ...

...WAS
A WRONG
NUMBER.

WHICH
REMINDS ME ...



...KITTY PRYDE CAN PUT HER FRIENDS AND RELATIVES CALLING CIRCLE "TO GOOD USE."





NO, NO... I
THINK HE'S
JUST AWAY ON
BUSINESS.

IT SOUNDS LIKE
YOU'RE PRETTY
BUSY THERE YOUR-
SELF. I'LL LET
YOU GO.

AND
MOM...?



YES,
SWEET-
HEART?



MAYBE I'LL
VISIT... WHEN
THINGS SETTLE
DOWN FOR YOU.
OKAY? BYE.



SURE ...

...EXCEPT THINGS
NEVER QUITE SETTLE
DOWN IN OUR FAMILY.
DO THEY?

NO WONDER MY
EARLY DAYS IN THE
X-MANSION FELT
SO MUCH MORE LIKE
HOME THAN HOME
DID.

JUST AS
MUCH LOVE
IN BOTH
HOUSES ...

...BUT THE X-MEN
ALWAYS MADE
TIME TO EX-
PRESS IT--NO
MATTER HOW
CRAZY OUR
LIVES GOT.



"ESPECIALLY
WHEN THINGS
GOT CRAZY!"

HOW CAN
I COMPLETE MY
MISSION, WHEN
THAT MISSION IS
HIDDEN FROM
ME 'E'?

THERE MUST
BE A REASON
I WAS SUMMONED
HERE!

THANK YOU



I am one
with the pulse of
life here, Britanic.
I can sense a
dewdrop as it
gathers on a single
blade of grass...

...just as I
sense the inter-
woven rhythms
of this entire
ecosystem.

Yet if there
is a purpose
to our presence,
it is hidden even
from me-- for I
can detect no
living sentience
other than our
own...

...and a
family...
four non-
mutants...
campers
exploring
nature.

Perhaps
they are
why--

NO.

WHATEVER IS
TO COME, IT
DOES NOT CONCERN
A SINGLE FAMILY,
OR EVEN THE FEW
OF US IN THIS
TRANSPORT--

-- BUT
EVERY
PERSON ON
THE PLANET.

"THE ANSWER
IS OUT THERE,
SOMEWHERE."

DAWN OVER THE MUIR
ISLE RESEARCH CENTER,
OFF THE COAST OF
SCOTLAND ...



...WHERE DR.
MOIRA
McTAGGERT
HAS COMPLETED
YET ANOTHER
NIGHT OF
FEVERISH
WORK--
LITERALLY.

AND IF HER
EFFORTS ARE
EVEN MORE
URGENT TO--
NIGHT...

...IT'S
BECAUSE HER
QUEST FOR
A CURE FOR
THE DEADLY
LEGACY
VIRUS HAS
TAKEN A
DECIDEDLY
PERSONAL
TWIST.

THAT
VIRUS WILL
GET YOU TOO,
MOIRA...



LET IF YOU
LET IT WORK
YOU TO DEATH.

RORY CAMPBELL,
YE LOOK TERRIBLE--
LIKE YOU'VE JUST
SEEN A GHOST!

I SUPPOSE
WE'VE BOTH
SEEN BETTER
DAYS...



...THOUGH
PERHAPS WORSE
DAYS LIE
AHEAD.

RYE.

TELL ME
SOMETHING,
RORY...



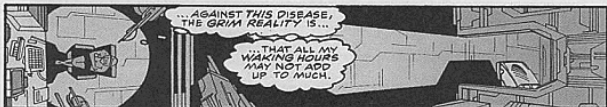
...CHARLES
XAVIER'S PER-
SONAL REQUEST
FOR ASSISTANCE
ASIDE...

...WHY WOULD A
BRILLIANT RESEARCH
SCIENTIST LIKE
YOURSELF DEVOTE HIS
EVERY WAKING HOUR
TO CURING THIS DREAD
DISEASE?

THAT'S
ODD...



...I WAS
ABOUT TO
ASK YOU
THAT SAME
QUESTION.



THE WOODS OF MAINE.

BUT MOM, MILO WON'T GO IF ANYBODY ELSE IS AROUND! MILO AND I CAN FIND THE BEST SPOT ON OUR OWN!

MILO'S A STUFFED BUNNY, YOU TWERP-- HE'S NOT THE ONE WHO HAS TO GO.

HUSH, DAVEY!

WE CAN'T KEEP MILO WAITING, CAN WE? WELL DON'T JUST STAND THERE, CAMPER.

YOU'RE A BIG GIRL, NOW. BUT DON'T GO TOO FAR, COURTNEY.

UH-HUH.

AND AFTER THIS, IT'S BEDTIME.

UH-HUH.

UH-OH!

THUMP



HI??

AWESOME GIVES WAY TO CURIOSITY ABOUT A CREATURE SO WONDERFUL AND RARE...

... WHICH, IT TURNS OUT, IS EXACTLY WHAT COURTNEY WAS FEELING, TOO.

AND WHILE ZERO MAY NEVER FULLY GRASP WHAT IT IS THAT MAKES A BEING LIKE THIS SO SPECIAL...

... SOMEWHERE IN HIS CIRCUITS AND LOGIC PATHWAYS, A DAWNING CONSCIOUSNESS RECOGNIZES THAT, FOR ALL THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER AT HIS COMMAND...

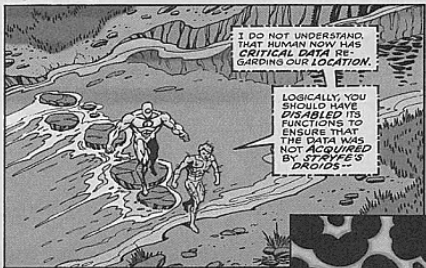
... HE'S HOLDING SOMETHING FAR GREATER THAN HIMSELF.

SO HE TRIES TO TREAT IT APPROPRIATELY, AND LIKE ANY THOUGHTFUL VISITOR TO THE WILD...

... HE LEAVES IT AS HE FOUND IT.

THOUGH WITH A LITTLE MORE TO DREAM ABOUT TONIGHT.





I DO NOT UNDERSTAND.
THAT HUMAN NOW HAS
CRITICAL DATA RE-
GARDING OUR LOCATION.

LOGICALLY, YOU
SHOULD HAVE
DISABLED ITS
FUNCTIONS TO
ENSURE THAT
THE DATA WAS
NOT **ACQUIRED**
BY **STRYFE'S**
DROIDS--



STOP: LISTEN
TO YOURSELF.

YOU TALK ABOUT
TERMINATING A
HUMAN LIFE
AS IF YOU WERE
DELETING AN
OBSOLETE
DATAFILE.



IS THE LOGIC
FAULTY?

THAT WAY OF LIFE
IS FAULTY!!!

THERE IS LITTLE
TIME. YOU MUST
OVERCOME THE
FAULT, BEGIN
FUNCTIONING AT
A NEW LEVEL.

THAT IS WHY I
FREED YOU FROM
THE COLLECTIVE
MIND OF THE
PHALANX!!!

/// NOT JUST
BECAUSE I
NEEDED HELP!!!

/// BUT BECAUSE I
SENSED YOU WERE
DIFFERENT FROM
THE OTHERS.
MORE THAN JUST
A **TECHNO-OR-**
GANIC DEVICE.

YOU COULD
TRANSCEND
YOUR PRO-
GRAMMING
AND ACHIEVE
SENTIENCE.
YOU MUST.



REQUEST
CLARIFICATION:
WHY WOULD YOU
THINK I WOULD
BE ANY DIFFER-
ENT FROM THE
REST OF THE
PHALANX?

I WILL SHOW YOU.
PROMPTING MEM-
ORY PLAYBACK,
FORMER ORGANIC
FILES OF UNIT
DESIGNATE:
RAMSEY DOUGH!!!

WITNESS THE EXPERIENCES
OF YOUR ORGANIC
ANTECEDENT,
AND REMEMBER!!!

ONCE MORE, IMAGES
FLICKER THROUGH
HIS CIRCUITS...

...WITH THE SAME
TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES.

... AS THE FINAL ACTIONS
OF THE NEW MUTANT
DOUG RAMSEY ARE
REPLAYED...

RAHNE--
LOOK OUT!

BAM
BAM
BAM

THIS ACT
WAS NOT
LOGICAL.

IT RAN CONTRARY
TO ALL SURVIVAL
IMPERATIVES.

BUT IT WAS...
PROFOUNDLY
HUMAN.

THIS IS THE STOCK
FROM WHICH YOU
WERE DERIVED.
BASED ON THIS
DATA, I SUSPECTED
YOU.

///I HOPED--
THAT SOME-
THING WOULD
PROVE DIFFER-
ENT ABOUT
YOU.

YOU WERE
IN ERROR.

I AM OF THE
PHALANX
I--THE PHA-
LANX--

--WE ARE
FOREVER--

WHOOOM

STRYFE'S DROID'S!
BUT WHAT ARE THEY
ATTACKING--

THE VECTOR OF ASSAULT IS CONSISTENT WITH
THE FAMILY WE ENCOUNTERED MOMENTS AGO!!!

OUR DISCUSSION OF YOUR STATUS MUST BE
DEFERRED!!! OUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED!!!

"IF IT IS NOT
ALREADY
TOO LATE!!!"

GET AWAY
FROM MY
FAMILY!!

COURTNEY!
COURTNEY!!

HIGH PROBABILITY OF
CONTAMINATING CONTACT
WITH TARGET: ZERO IN THE
RECENT PAST

DIRECTIVE 000.0 APPLIES

DELETE
HUMAN
TARGETS

OH MY GOD.

BUT THEN, AS IN
ANSWER TO A
FRIGHTENED
MAN'S CALL...

...FROM ABOVE
COMES BRITANIC.

THOUGH MY
RIGHTEOUS WRATH
THUNDERS DOWN FROM
ON HIGH--

--I AM
NOT YOUR
DEITY!

SKROOOM

WE OF
EXCALIBUR BUT SAW
YOUR PERIL... AND COULD
NOT STAND IDLY BY!

COURTNEY--

LOOK
OUT!

TARGET
LOCKED--

MOMMA!

I KNOW,
SWEETHEART.
BUT YOU'RE GONNA
BE FINE...

--DELETION
IMMINENT.

I'm
Scared.

JUST
DON'T LOOK.
OKAY?

NOW THAT
MY PHASING POWER
HAS MADE US BOTH
INTANGIBLE!

Okay.

SHOOOM

ANOMALY
ANOMALY

THERE, ONLY
A LITTLE TINGLE.
RIGHT?

Uh-Huh.

MY NAME'S
KITTY. AND AS
LONG AS YOU'RE
WITH ME...

YOU
WON'T FEEL
ANYTHING
WORSE THAN
THAT.

UH-OH... LOOKS LIKE
THIS GUY'S GOT SOME-
THING UP HIS SLEEVE...

RECONFIGURING WEAPONS SYSTEMS
TO AFFECT PHASED TARGETS.

RAAWRH!

MEGGAN,
IT APPEARS THAT
SHADOWCAT
MAY NEED OUR
HELP!

TOO FAR...
TOO MANY OF
THEM... YOU'VE
GOT THESE
IN TIME!

RECONFIGURATION
COMPLETE.
DELETION
IMMINENT.

SKRAASH

BLAST IT.
THAT THING'S OUT
OF REACH--

--CAN'T TOUCH IT
TO DISRUPT ITS
ELECTRONICS--

I-IT'LL JUST
TINGLE, RIGHT?





ALERT ALERT
WIDESPREAD SYSTEM
TRANSFIGURATION
INTRODUCTION OF
UNIDENTIFIED
FOREIGN TECHNOLO--



MAYBE IF I
PHASE US BENEATH
THE GROUND...

WHO'M
I KIDDING?
WE'RE NEVER
GOING TO--

WHAT
THE?? THAT
HAND! IT'S--

UNIDENTIFIED.
LIKE HECK I
RECOGNIZE
THAT STUFF--

--IT'S
TECHNO-
ORGANIC!
BUT THAT'S--



THE QUESTION IS, DOES SHE KNOW HIM NOW?



I WILL **NOT** PERMIT
OTHERS TO BE HARMED
BECAUSE OF **ME!!!**

WHOOUMM

WHOA.

THE **WHITE**
ONE-- HE IS THE
KEY! HE IS THE
REASON I WAS
SUMMONED
HERE!

I HOPE THAT IS
NOT SO, FOR I
FEAR THAT I HAVE
PLACED YOU ALL
IN JEOPARDY.

THAT WAS
NEVER MY
INTENT.

I ACCEPT
THAT YOUR
INTENTIONS
WERE FOR THE
GOOD...

...BUT
THAT MEANS
LITTLE NOW.
LOOK!



THERE
MUST BE
SCORES OF
THEM

CAN YOU
TAKE THEM
OUT, STRANGER,
AS YOU DID
THEIR KIN?

NOT AT PRESENT
OPERATING
CAPACITY!!!

SHKOW

/// BUT I CAN TAKE US
OUT OF HARM'S WAY!!!

/// FOR THE
MOMENT.

ZERO HAS EFFECTED
TELEPORTATION OF
ALL TARGETS TO NEW
COORDINATES.

SCANNING...

DELETION
OF TARGETS
IMMINENT.

CONTINUING
PURSUIT.

CONTINUED
NEXT ISSUE
IN:
"TWISTED
LOGIC"...

THE DOOGLUCK
CHRONICLES
PART II.



ZERO
versus a
STARVE DROID
A PINUP PAGE
by Ken Lashley &
Kelth Champagne

KW • KEITH

WHAT IS THIS LOCATION?

A CAVE IN NORTH AMERICA, SUBREGION DESIGNATE: MAINE, U.S.A.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YOUR CURRENT ACTIONS?

I AM ATTEMPTING TO ELUDE PURSUIT AND AVERT DESTRUCTION BY HUNTER-KILLER DROIDS!!!

!!! DROIDS PROGRAMMED BY MY FORMER MASTER, STRYFE, TO DELETE ALL STRYFE-RELATED DATA AND MATERIAL IN THE EVENT OF HIS TERMINATION.

STRYFE HAS INDEED BEEN TERMINATED. I HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED AS STRYFE-RELATED AND THEREFORE HAVE BEEN TARGETED BY --

PERHAPS THE FIRE CAN PROVIDE DATA FOR THE ANALYSIS.

YOU SEEK FEELINGS IN FIRE!!!



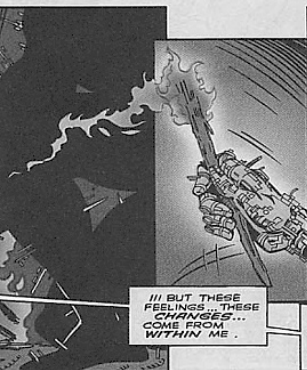
YOU MISUNDERSTAND.
REPHRASING QUERY:
WHAT IS THE
SIGNIFICANCE OF
YOUR IMMEDIATE
BEHAVIOR?

I ... AM
WARMING MYSELF
BY THE FIRE. I
FAIL TO GRASP
THE RELEVANCE--

IT IS ILLOGICAL.
AS AN ARTIFICIAL
CONSTRUCT LIKE
MYSELF, YOU SHOULD
BE OPERATIONAL UNDER
A WIDE RANGE OF
TEMPERATURE CONDI-
TIONS.

IT IS A HUMAN
BEHAVIOR, COMMON
WHEN SEEKING...
COMFORT!!!

!!! ANOTHER
FEELING
THAT DEFIES
ANALYSIS.



!!! BUT THESE
FEELINGS... THESE
CHANGES...
COME FROM
WITHIN ME.



CHANGES AS
SWEEPING AS YOUR
TECHNO-ORGANIC
VIRUS TRANS-
FORMING A STICK
OF WOOD.